

San Diego County Vector Habitat Remediation Program

Stakeholder Meeting
February 4, 2015



Vector Habitat Remediation Program (VHRP)

- Background
- Objectives of Program
- Types of projects
- Criteria for selection
- Application process
- CEQA Compliance
- Regulatory Permitting



Background

- DEH Vector Control Program
 - Providing public health protection to the residents of San Diego County for over 30 years
 - Responsible for the Surveillance and Control of vector-borne diseases in San Diego County
 - WNV



Background

- Integrated Vector Management
 - Public education/Outreach
 - Surveillance
 - Control
 - Biological control using natural materials and environmentally sensitive larvicides
- Vector Habitat Remediation Program
 - Physical control activities such as water management or vegetation removal



Source Reduction

- Habitat modification has been demonstrated to be an effective means to achieve source reduction of mosquito breeding habitat
- Source reduction reduces the quantity and frequency of pesticide applications
 - Increased accessibility for natural predators
 - Improved wind-driven wave action
 - Better penetration of larvicide granules



Objectives

- To reduce or eliminate chronic mosquito breeding sources
- Increase efficacy of pesticides
- Comply with local/state/federal laws related to wetlands and endangered species protection
- Opportunity for complimentary projects
- Look for “win-win” situations to create balanced ecology



VHRP Key Components

- Funds will be used to reduce mosquito breeding
- Applicants must comply with CEQA and obtain necessary regulatory permits
- Long term maintenance will be emphasized



Methods for distributing funds

- Directed
 - Smaller projects which provide funding up to \$50K
- Competitive
 - Comprehensive habitat modification/restoration
 - Turnkey
 - Study
 - Assistance



Directed Projects

- Restore drainage
- Increase opennness
- Increase slope and depth
- Reduce mosquito refuge areas
- Improve access for other treatment activities



Directed Projects

- Limit of \$50,000 per individual project
- Continuous process through the year
- Focused on immediate action clean-up of detention basins, maintenance of storm drains, drainage ditches, etc.



Application Review Process

Continuous process throughout the year



Project
identified by
DEH staff in
the field



Application
from Property
Owner or
Management
Entity



DEH Staff &
Review Panel



Competitive Projects

- Number of projects limited by available funding
- \$500,000 Limit / project
- Applications from property owner or management entity accepted and evaluated once a year.
- Applications will be selected based on established ranking criteria



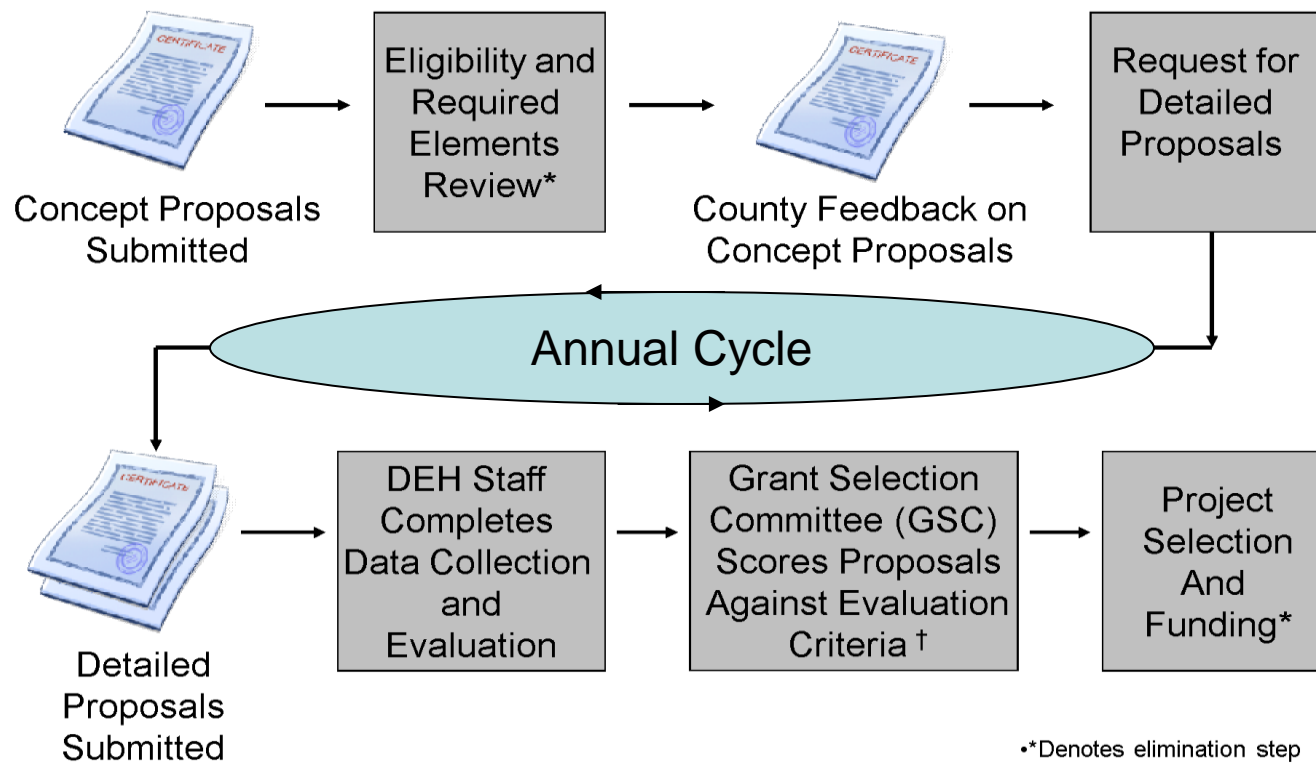
Competitive Projects

- Focused on comprehensive solutions for source reduction
 - Modifying tidal flow in lagoons
 - Management of stream discharge / stormwater retention time
 - Vegetation removal / non-native species
 - Restoration of disturbed wetlands, etc.



Application Review Process

Competitive Grant Program – Selection Process



•*Denotes elimination step

•†Denotes prioritization step



Project Eligibility Criteria

- Source reduction
- Geographically eligible
- Documentation of compliance with laws and regulations
- Measurable effectiveness
- Long-term maintenance plan
- Applicant to provide documentation of authority to access property



Ranking Criteria

- Aerial application site (DEH)
- Known breeding location (DEH)
- Mosquito abundance and type (DEH)
- Threat permanence / recurrence (DEH)
- Proximity to urbanized areas and sensitive receptors (DEH)



Ranking Criteria

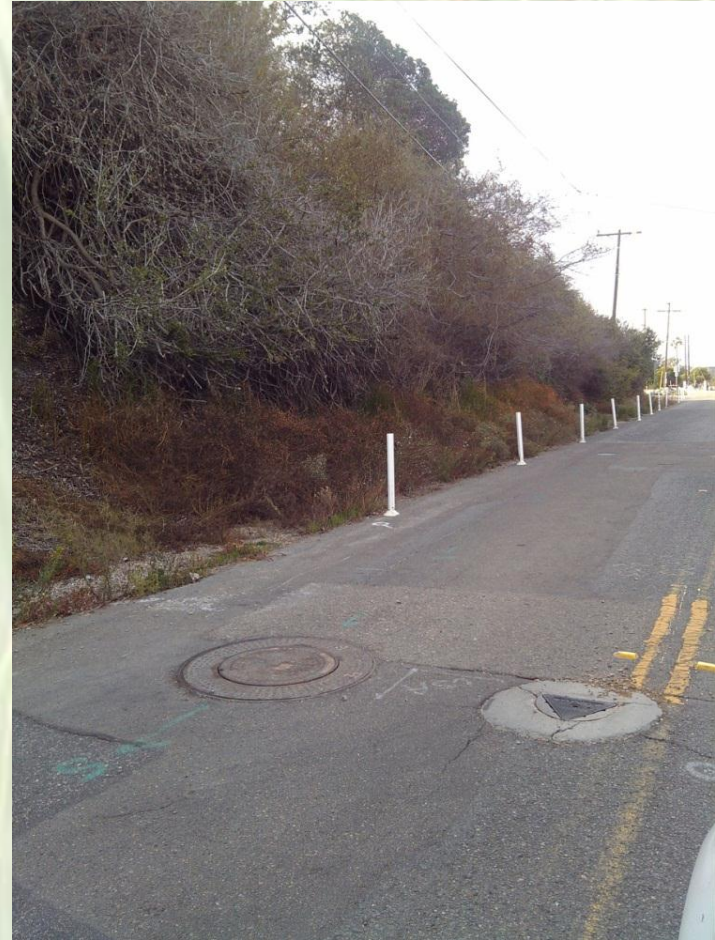
- Matching funds / partnering (Applicant)
- Experience in related projects (vector habitat management, wetland restoration, etc.) (Applicant)
- Cost/benefits of permitting effort (Applicant and DEH)
- Consistency with wetland design concepts for vector control (DEH and Advisory Panel)
- Feasibility of maintenance plan (DEH)



Hoyt Park



San Dieguito Drive



Kit Carson Park



Regulatory Agencies

- US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)
- US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
- Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB)
- California Coastal Commission (CCC)
- State Lands Commission (SLC)
- City and County Jurisdictions



Regulatory Environment

- Federal Regulations/Statutes
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Migratory Bird Treaty Act
 - Clean Water Act
- State Regulations/Statutes
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
 - California Fish and Game Code
 - Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
 - California Coastal Act
- Local Regulations

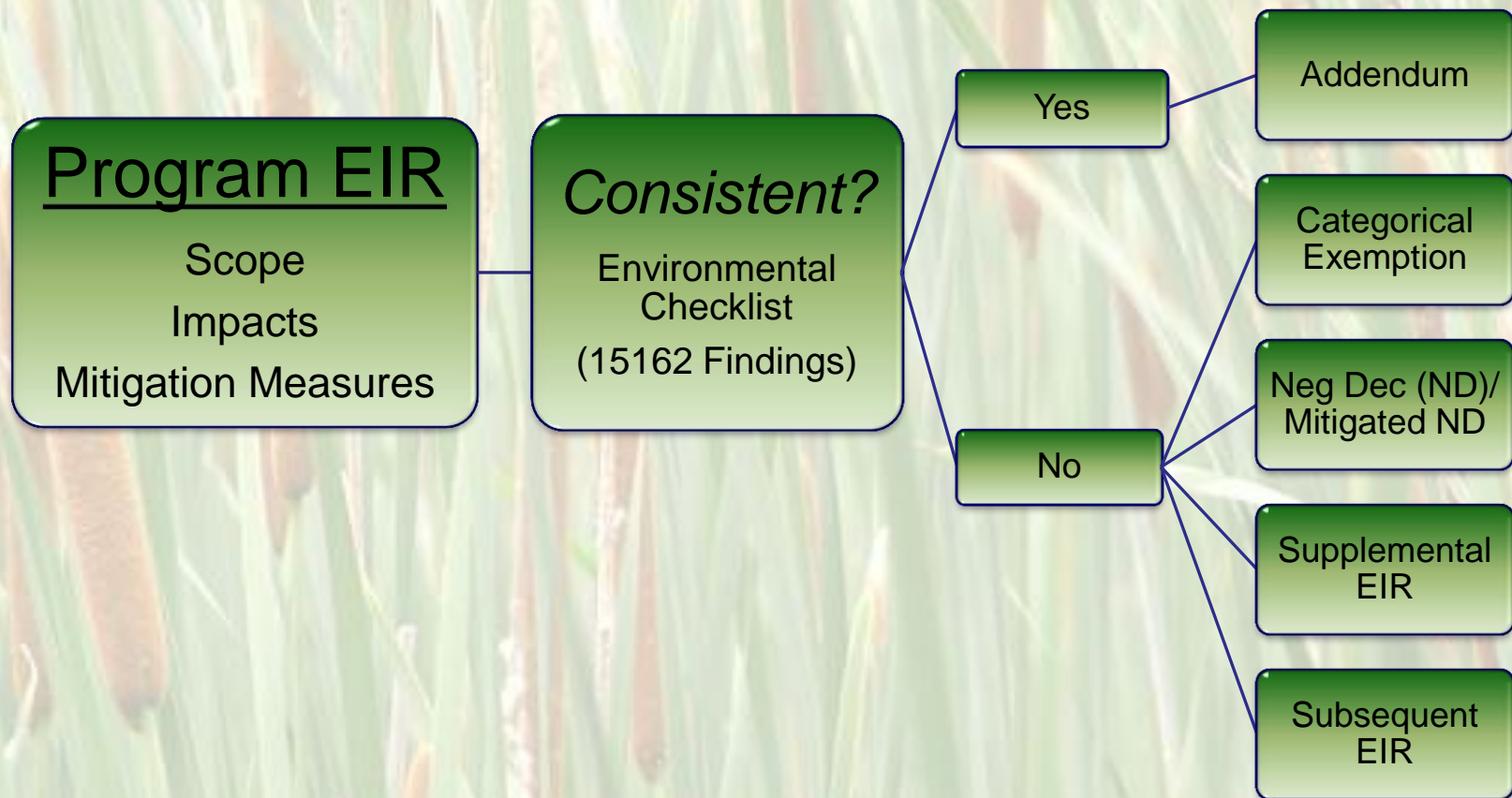


CEQA

- Program EIR was certified March 24, 2010
 - Analyzes a wide variety of activities
 - Significant environmental impacts
 - Biological resources
 - Cultural resources
 - Hydrology/Water Quality
 - Noise
 - Mitigation measures must be implemented
 - Each project must analyze consistency with the Program EIR



Project Specific CEQA



Regulatory Permits

- Umbrella Permits for Wetland Impacts
 - Army Corps (RGP 82), RWQCB Region 9, and CDFG permits obtained in Fall 2011
 - Allows for the expedited approval of projects that meet specific conditions and incorporate specific mitigation measures
- Project Specific Permits



Thank you for your participation!

- Innovative approach to protecting public health from vector-borne disease
- Opportunity for public and private partnerships
- Win-win!



Important Dates and Contact Info

- **February 4, 2015** – A call for conceptual proposals will be published
- **April 3, 2015** – Conceptual proposals due
- **May 15, 2015** – County will provide written responses on conceptual proposals
- **June 19, 2015** – Detailed proposals due
- **July 17, 2015** – The Grant Selection Committee will complete the review and ranking projects following evaluation criteria. Results of the grant selection will be posted on the County DEH website
- **September 1, 2015** – Negotiation of grants with selected applicants

Email us: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov

Call us: (858) 694-2888

VHRP web page:

http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/pests/habitat_remediation.html

